

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-14 are pending. Claims 1-3, 5, 8-10, and 12 are amended. Claims 1 and 8 are independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

Drawings

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner has accepted the drawings filed on December 21, 2001.

Claim for Priority

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner has recognized the Applicants' claim for foreign priority.

Acknowledgement of Information Disclosure Statement

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner has acknowledged the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 21, 2001.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In order to overcome this rejection, claims 1-3 and 8-10 are amended herein to correct each of the deficiencies specifically pointed out by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully

submit that the claims, as amended, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. in view of Cadars.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. in view of Cadars and further in view of Sommars.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. in view of Cadars and further in view of Perpall.

Claims 8 through 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsurumi et al. in view of Cadars.

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsurumi et al. in view of Cadars and further in view of Sommars.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsurumi et al. in view of Cadars and further in view of Perpall.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the present application, independent claims 1 and 8 are amended

herein to recite combinations of elements directed to a vehicle radiator device including a radiator having first and second tanks made of synthetic resin, said first tank being attached to first coupled protruding pieces extending from inner and outer sides of an upper part of the radiation core, and said second tank being attached to second coupled protruding pieces extending from inner and outer sides of a lower part of the radiation core; and a shroud made of elastic material for conducting cooling wind passing through the radiator, the first tank and the second tank being mounted onto the shroud.

Support for said first tank being attached to first coupled protruding pieces extending from inner and outer sides of an upper part of the radiation core, and said second tank being attached to second coupled protruding pieces extending from inner and outer sides of a lower part of the radiation core; and a shroud made of elastic material for conducting cooling wind passing through the radiator, the first tank and the second tank being mounted onto the shroud, can be found in the specification, for example, in paragraphs [0034] to [0036]. See also FIG. 5.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in independent claims 1 and 8 are not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Watanabe et al., Cadars, Tsurumi et al. Each of these documents is silent regarding said first tank being attached to first coupled protruding pieces extending from inner and outer sides of an upper part of the radiation core, and said second tank being attached to second coupled protruding pieces extending from inner and outer sides of a lower part of the

radiation core; and a shroud made of elastic material for conducting cooling wind passing through the radiator, the first tank and the second tank being mounted onto the shroud.

The Examiner goes on to state that Sommars provides protruding pieces or locators 32.

However, as can be seen in FIG. 1 of the Sommars document, Sommars merely teaches locators on the top and the bottom of the the radiator core, and fails to teach or make obvious first coupled protruding pieces extending from inner and outer radiator core, and sides of an upper part of the radiation core, and said second tank being attached to second coupled protruding pieces extending from inner and outer sides of a lower part of the radiation core.

Thus, Sommars cannot make up for the deficiencies of Watanabe et al., Cadars, and Tsurumi et al.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combinations of elements as set forth in independent claims 1 and 8 are not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Watanabe et al., Cadars, Tsurumi et al., and Sommars, for the reasons explained above.

Therefore, independent claims 1 and 8 are in condition for allowance. While other cited references are combined with one or more of Watanabe et al., Cadars, and Tsurumi et al. to reject dependent claims, these references fail to make up for the deficiencies of Watanabe et al., Cadars, and Tsurumi et al. Further, dependent claims 2-7 and 2-7 and 9-14 are in condition for allowance due to their dependence on allowable independent claims, as well as for the additional novel limitations set forth therein.

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Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are respectfully requested. All claims of the present application are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject claims, but merely to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at (703) 205-8000.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for

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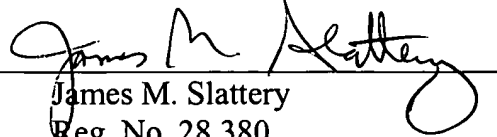
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any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Abstract of the Disclosure